

United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1207
18 August 1992

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Canadian sergeant killed and corporal injured after truck hits mine in UNPROFOR sector west of Croatia; brings to 11 total number of deaths in Yugoslavia.
- + United Nations Guard Lars Hjelmquist wounded while patrolling with two other Guards south of Sulaimaniya, Iraq.
- + Economic and Social Council holds meeting to consider report of the Commission on Human Rights on Yugoslavia.

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A United Nations Spokeswoman reported today that a Canadian truck this morning hit a mine in the UNPROFOR sector west of Croatia. A Canadian sergeant was killed and a Canadian corporal was injured by shrapnel. The death of the Canadian sergeant brings to 11 the total number of fatal casualties suffered by the personnel of United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Yugoslavia.

The Spokeswoman further reported that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had decided to suspend humanitarian flights due to the security situation at Sarajevo airport. However, as far as UNPROFOR was concerned, the airport was still open. Two UNPROFOR flights were expected to land tomorrow, including one carrying General Nambiar, UNPROFOR's Chief Commander.

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A United Nations Guard, Lars Hjelmquist of Sweden was shot and wounded yesterday by two bullets while patrolling by land vehicle with two other Guards about 100 kilometres south of Sulaimaniya, a United Nations spokeswoman said today.

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Mr. Hjelmquist was taken to a local hospital and later transported by military helicopter to Baghdad. Following medical examination, he was transported by air via Kuwait to Lund, Sweden. Before his departure for Sweden, Mr. Hjelmquist was observed to be "fully conscious and well looking."

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The Economic and Social Council met this morning to consider the report of the Commission on Human Rights, which held its first ever special session in Geneva last week to address the human rights situation in the former Yugoslavia. The 53-member Commission, the United Nations' principal human rights entity, is a subsidiary body of the Council and reports directly to it.

The Council, resuming its substantive session, took up the Commission's recommendation that it endorse the resolution unanimously adopted on 14 August by the participants in the special session. By that text they condemned absolutely the concept and practice of "ethnic cleansing", demanded that the International Committee of the Red Cross be given immediate and continued access to all places of detention within the territory of the former Yugoslavia, and requested that the Commission's Chairman appoint a special rapporteur to investigate first-hand the human rights situation in that area, in particular within Bosnia and Herzegovina.

It was announced shortly after the adoption of the resolution that Tadeusz Mazowiecki, the former Prime Minister of Poland, was appointed Special Rapporteur.

Annexed to the text of the report was a resolution approved by the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities at its current session, which condemned the policy of "ethnic cleansing" and the massive displacement of people it was causing. It also demanded that those people be given the chance to return to their homes, that they receive reparation for the losses they have suffered, and those responsible be brought to justice as a matter of urgency.

The estimated cost of enacting the resolution, stated in another annex, is given as approximately \$100,000, to be absorbed under the human rights section of the 1992-1993 budget.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1208
19 August 1992

W E D N E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + Three supplementary items submitted for inclusion in General Assembly agenda: on presence of foreign troops on Baltic territory, on emergency aid for Afghanistan and on Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.
- + Bulgaria reiterates proposal that international observers be deployed inside its western borders in order to avert expansion of conflict in former Yugoslavia to neighbouring countries.
- + Human Rights Subcommission, currently meeting in Geneva, adopts five resolutions on discrimination against women, sex tourism, child exploration, among other things; concludes general debate on human rights violations.
- + Committee on Elimination of Racial Discrimination adopts annual report to General Assembly.

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The General Assembly has been asked to include in its agenda for the forthcoming session next month three supplementary items, one dealing with the presence of foreign troops on Baltic territory, one with emergency assistance for Afghanistan, and one with the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have jointly requested the inclusion of a supplementary item entitled "Complete withdrawal of foreign military forces from the territory of the Baltic States". An explanatory memorandum, annexed to the letter conveying the request to the Secretary-General, says that one year after their admission to membership in the United Nations as sovereign States, the three independent States still had foreign military forces stationed on their territory without their consent. The inclusion of the item in the General Assembly's agenda "would constitute a timely application of preventative diplomacy in a region where the maintenance of peace and security may be threatened".

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In a similar letter to the Secretary-General, the Chargé d'affaires of Afghanistan, Abdul Rahim Ghafoorzai, has requested the inclusion in the Assembly's agenda of a supplementary item entitled "Emergency international assistance for the reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan".

The attached memorandum states that it is the "moral obligation" of the General Assembly to help rebuild Afghanistan, with the cooperation of the international community, so that the country, "one of the poorest among the least developed countries", could be enabled to enjoy "peace, prosperity and the rule of law".

The Chargé d'affaires of Czechoslovakia has requested the inclusion of a supplementary item entitled "Coordination of the activities of the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe".

The question of interaction between the two organizations acquired a new dimension after the CSCE Summit in Helsinki in July, the explanatory memorandum states. That had been emphasized by the developments in the former Yugoslavia and the suggestion of Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali that the CSCE consider what role it might play in terms of peace-keeping requirements in the area.

Document A/ 47/191, A/47/192, A/47/193

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Bulgaria has reiterated a proposal that international observers be deployed on Bulgarian territory along its western borders in order to avert the expansion of the conflict in former Yugoslavia to neighbouring countries.

In a letter to the Secretary-General, dated 14 August, the Bulgarian Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Svetlomisir Baev, said his country was prepared to accept civilian observers to be deployed in the area by decision of the international community. He welcomed the upcoming Conference on Former Yugoslavia, scheduled to begin in London on 26 August, saying it could become a forum not only for seeking a settlement of the conflict but also for harmonizing the new realities in South-eastern Europe with the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

In a related development, the Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, Milan Panic, has written a letter to the Secretary-General asking for the assistance of the United Nations in monitoring all of the border crossing points between Yugoslavia and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the deployment of United Nations observers at all Yugoslav army fields.

In his letter, dated 17 August, Mr. Panic also offered the "currently greatly underutilized facilities of Belgrade International Airport" to ensure the peaceful delivery of humanitarian and relief supplies to the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(S/24454, A/47/380)

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Non-governmental organizations and some States has expressed concern about ongoing violence, disappearances and intimidation as a result of actions by terrorists, drug-traffickers and groups linked to Governments in certain Latin America countries, particularly Peru and Colombia. The views were stated yesterday in Geneva as the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities concluded its debate on human rights violations worldwide.

On Friday, 14 August, the Subcommittee recommended, in one of five resolutions adopted, that the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights Committee give priority to the question of discrimination against women. By another resolution, the Subcommittee called for steps to combat sex tourism and various forms of child exploitation and prostitution. Other concerns addressed in the resolutions were the encouragement of the universal acceptance of human rights instruments and reservations made by several States regarding the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

The Subcommittee will end its forty-fourth session on 28 August.

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The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, at a meeting last week in Geneva, adopted its annual report, which will be submitted through the Secretary-General to the upcoming forty-seventh session of the General Assembly next month.

Accompanying the annual report was a letter to the Secretary-General concerning the critical financial situation affecting the Committee. It stated that the Committee continued to be in the paradoxical situation of having to deal with a considerably increased workload while reducing the duration of its meetings from six to two weeks because of financial difficulties.

Another letter, accompanying the report, concerned the review of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination in States whose reports were overdue.

However, the letter mentioned that owing to the lack of time, it was not possible to consider petitions and other information relating to non-self-governing territories or to hold a second meeting with the Subcommittee on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of the Commission on Human Rights.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1209
20 August 1992

THURSDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + United Nations emergency operation today commences airlift of emergency food and other relief supplies to Sudan.
- + Ukrainian soldier with United Nations Protection Force killed today in Sarajevo by a sniper.
- + Somalia welcomes emergency relief efforts now under way in war-ridden and famine-stricken country; World Food Programme sends technical mission to Somalia to look at facilities in preparation for larger scale humanitarian relief operation.
- + Secretary-General leaving on Monday for London, where he will co-chair International Conference on former Yugoslavia jointly organized by United Nations and European Community; "might" be briefed in London by his envoy to Libya, Vladimir Petrovsky, on his meeting today with Libyan leader.
- + Turkey requests inclusion of an additional item entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina" in agenda of General Assembly's forty-sixth session.

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The United Nations emergency operation and the World Food Programme (WFP) today commenced its first airlift of 1,000 metric tons of food and 75 metric tons of emergency relief supplies to Juba, in the Sudan. According to a press release issued by the operation office, food stocks in the area have been completely exhausted. The operation is intended to bring immediate relief to the 300,000 civilians who, caught in the conflict between the Government of Sudan and the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, face imminent starvation.

The food supplies were flown in from Entebbe, in Uganda, on an Ilyushin 76 aircraft, which then headed back to Entebbe for reloading. The press release says that throughout the duration of the operation, the WFP will organize two flights a day from Entebbe to Juba.

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While expressing optimism that the relief efforts would continue unimpeded, the United Nations also appealed to all parties concerned to cooperate in the emergency operation.

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A United Nations spokeswoman reported today that a Ukrainian soldier with the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) was killed today in Sarajevo by a sniper. She said the Secretary-General had expressed his sadness at the soldier's death and conveyed his condolences to the Ukrainian Government.

The death of the Ukrainian soldier brings to 12 the total number of fatal casualties suffered by the personnel of UNPROFOR in Yugoslavia.

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The Somali Permanent Mission to the United Nations has welcomed the emergency relief efforts now under way in the war-ridden and famine-stricken country.

In a statement yesterday, the Mission's Chargé d'affaires, Ms. Fatun Mohamed Hassan, expressed her gratitude to the United Nations relief efforts, including the beginning of a two-month emergency airlift of food by the United States. She expressed the hope that the much-needed humanitarian assistance by the international community would contribute towards restoring peace and stability in Somalia after 18 months of factional fighting.

Meanwhile, the World Food Programme (WFP) has sent a technical mission to Somalia to look at the facilities in the country in preparation for a larger scale humanitarian relief operation to help the 4.5 to 6 million Somalis affected by the crisis. The mission is expected to report to the Secretary-General early next week.

Paul Mitchell, spokesman of the WFP, said in an interview yesterday that the Agency had already begun its airlift in cooperation with the Red Cross and other agencies into small isolated centres in the interior of Somalia and had for some time been flying in food to Mogadishu and the southern part of Somalia.

Until now there had been no armed security to protect either the relief personnel or the relief convoys operating in Somalia, Mr. Mitchell said. The Agency had hired local people to provide security at the port and to protect the convoys when they leave the port and go to the distribution centres. But, he said, "there is no one to protect the people that food is given to". Often, food that was distributed during the day, was taken away by gun men at night. He expressed the hope that the presence of United Nations security personnel, who are expected to be deployed in Somalia shortly, would be a deterrence for bandits trying to loot the convoys and would be able to provide the kind of protection needed.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will be leaving on Monday for London, where he will co-chair the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia jointly organized by the United Nations and the European Community. He said today he hoped that through the Conference a solution would be found to both the humanitarian and political aspects of the crisis in that area. The meeting is scheduled from 26 to 28 August.

According to a spokeswoman, Vladimir Petrovsky met this morning with Libyan leader Colonel Colonel Muammar Al-Qathafi, and "he might go to London to brief the Secretary-General" on the meeting, while the Secretary-General is in London.

Mr. Petrovsky, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, went to Tripoli on Monday to deliver a letter from the Secretary-General to the Libyan leader, seeking the cooperation of the Libyan Government in establishing responsibility for the downing of Pan Am flight 103 and UTA flight 772. His visit followed a decision by the Security Council last week that Libya had not met its requirements for lifting sanctions imposed in April in connection with the attacks on the two planes.

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Turkey has requested the inclusion of an additional item entitled "The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina", in the agenda of the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

An explanatory memorandum attached to a letter yesterday to the Secretary-General states that the 47 members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference consider that "the violation of the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a member of the United Nations, and the grievous suffering inflicted on its inhabitants call for the early convening of the General Assembly at which the international community can voice its concern and seek to redress the intolerable situation prevailing in that country".

The letter to the Secretary-General was signed by the Turkish Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Mustapha Aksin. The General Committee will be meeting tomorrow to consider the request, and if it agrees to it, the General Assembly will meet on Monday morning to take up the issue.

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United Nations

Daily Highlights

Department of Public Information • Central News Section • New York

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DH/1210

21 August 1992

FRIDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + Appeal to international community for assistance in demining activities in Cambodia launched by Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, and President of Supreme National Council, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.
- + Secretary-General travels to London on 24 August to co-chair Conference on former Yugoslavia; to go afterwards to Jakarta to attend non-aligned Summit meeting and to Moscow for official visit to Russian Federation.
- + General Committee recommends that General Assembly take up situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina; Assembly to consider recommendation in plenary Monday morning.
- + Humanitarian flights to Sarajevo continue as 27 aircraft carrying 287 tonnes of emergency relief supplies land at the airport in spite of "intense firing".
- + United Nations to hold sixth Conference on Standardization of Geographical Names at Headquarters on Tuesday, 25 August, through 3 September.

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An Appeal to the international community on assistance in demining activities in Cambodia has been launched by the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Cambodia, Yasushi Akashi, and the President of the Supreme National Council, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

According to a press communiqué issued yesterday, the last months of the implementation of the Paris Agreement of last October had "magnified the difficulties of the task ahead on the road to a lasting peace and to free and fair elections". One of these threats, the communiqué said, related to the "potent threat to life and limb" posed by mines and other unexploded ordnance devices.

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The United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has carried out, in accordance with its mandate, training in mine clearance, mine marking and mine clearing activities. The communiqué said however that the magnitude of the task ahead required an expanded and sustained effort that could only be possible with the assistance of the international community.

The United Nations supervised elections in Cambodia are scheduled for spring 1993.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will leave New York on Monday, 24 August, for London where he will co-chair the International Conference on the former Yugoslavia organized jointly by the United Nations and the European Community.

Following the conference, he will travel to Jakarta on 30 August to attend the non-aligned Summit meeting, and then, on 3 September, to Moscow for an official visit to the Russian Federation. The Secretary-General is expected back in New York on 7 September.

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A new agenda item on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina was recommended this morning by the General Committee of the General Assembly for consideration by the Assembly's current session.

The request for consideration was contained in a letter from Turkey dated 19 August addressed to the Secretary-General. Addressing the General Committee, on behalf of the 47 members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Permanent Representative of Turkey, Mustafa Aksin, underlined that if the international community did not respond to the challenge confronting it in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it would be responsible for undermining the post-war edifice it had been constructing within the framework of the United Nations.

Those responsible for the crimes being committed had ignored every resolution of the Security Council, he continued. They had also ignored every call from international bodies. The people in the region were subjected to starvation and disease, as well as massive human rights violations in detention camps. The abhorrent practice of "ethnic cleansing" by the Serbs continued unabated.

The Assembly President, Samir S. Shihabi of Saudi Arabia, said the General Committee's recommendation would be considered in plenary on Monday morning, and should the Assembly decide to include the item in its agenda, it would proceed immediately to discuss it.

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A United Nations spokeswoman today said that humanitarian flights to Sarajevo continued yesterday when 27 aircraft carrying 287 tonnes of emergency relief supplies landed at the airport even as "intense firing" went on unabated.

The firing took place around the Tito barracks housing United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) personnel. The artillery fire had caused a great deal of damage to property, she said. However, no casualties were reported.

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Representatives from about 60 countries including representatives from several new members of the United Nations are expected to attend the Sixth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names taking place at the United Nations Headquarters from 25 August to 3 September.

The work of the United Nations in the area of toponymy began in 1959 when a group of geographers and cartographers from several countries suggested to the United Nations that world communications, and hence economic and social development, would benefit from an international standardization of geographical names. The first Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names was held in 1967 and subsequent conferences have since been held every five years.

Among the delegates expected to participate in the Conference are ambassadors and senior officials from national surveying and mapping institutions, as well as scientists and professors.

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United Nations

Press Release

Department of Public Information • News Coverage Service • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1211

24 August 1992

MONDAY HIGHLIGHTS

- + General Assembly takes up new agenda item on situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina at resumed forty-sixth session; hears message by Secretary-General.
- + Secretary-General, in London for International Conference on former Yugoslavia, will meet tomorrow with British Prime Minister John Major to discuss preparations for Conference.
- + Secretary-General urges Government of Afghanistan and all other parties involved in fighting in Kabul to exercise restraint and resolve their differences through dialogue; assures continued United Nations humanitarian aid to Afghan people.
- + Secretary-General asks his Special Representative for Western Sahara, Sahabzada Yaqub-Khan, to hold new round of talks with Government of Morocco and POLISARIO; talks will begin in New York tomorrow, according to United Nations spokeswoman.
- + "Heaviest shelling and fighting in weeks" reported from Sarajevo on Sunday; shelling continuing today.

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The General Assembly began this morning, at its resumed its forty-sixth session, a consideration of a new agenda item on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina as recommended by the General Committee. The agenda item had been requested by Turkey, on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

In a message read out by Benon Sevan, Assistant Secretary-General in the Department of Political Affairs, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali welcomed the initiative to convene the resumed Assembly session on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Its deliberations would help underline the "great concern" of the international community about the continuing bloodshed and the violations of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the need for an urgent peaceful solution in conformity with the United Nations Charter.

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In his message, the Secretary-General expressed the hope that the London Conference on former Yugoslavia, would provide new impetus to the efforts to arrive at a negotiated settlement of the crisis in all its aspects. He said the debate today and the adoption of the draft resolution would be an important contribution to the success of the London Conference and to the resolution of the Yugoslav problem.

The Representative of Turkey, Mustafa Aksin, told the Assembly that today's debate should send a clear message to those responsible for the mayhem in Bosnia and Herzegovina that further violence and defiance of international norms would not be allowed. The Organization of the Islamic Conference had prepared a draft resolution which was designed to stop the fighting and reassert the principles of international law. It demanded respect for the sovereignty of Bosnia and Herzegovina; supported the actions already taken in the Security Council and other organs of the United Nations; sought to alleviate the plight of the victims of ethnic cleansing; identified those who must bear the main responsibility for the tragedy; and reaffirmed the principle that territory cannot be acquired nor borders changed by the use of force.

The Assembly will continue its debate tomorrow and is expected to take action on the draft resolution.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who is in London to co-chair the International Conference on the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on Wednesday, 26 August, will meet tomorrow with British Prime Minister John Major to discuss preparations for the Conference.

Following the conclusion of the Conference on Thursday afternoon, the Secretary-General and the Prime Minister will hold a joint press conference.

The Secretary-General's delegation to the Conference is composed of Cyrus Vance, Special Representative on Yugoslavia; Vladimir Petrovsky, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs; Marrack Goulding, Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations; Jan Eliasson, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs; and Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has urged the Government of Afghanistan and all other parties involved in the fighting in Kabul to exercise restraint and resolve their differences through a dialogue. In a telephone conversation with Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani on Saturday, 22 August, he also reiterated the readiness of the United Nations to continue to provide humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan.

According to a statement issued by the Secretary-General's Spokesman on Saturday, President Rabbani, while expressing his Government's appreciation of

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the efforts of the Secretary-General and the United Nations in providing humanitarian assistance to the Afghans, requested the Secretary-General to mobilize the international community to provide the much-needed assistance to the people whose suffering had increased due to recent tragic events.

The Secretary-General assured President Rabbani that no effort would be spared in mobilizing international assistance to the Afghans and that a United Nations interagency team was currently finalizing its assessment of the additional requirements for assistance.

The President, in turn, assured the Secretary-General that his Government would ensure for the safety and security of all diplomatic missions, and the United Nations as well as their personnel and property in Kabul.

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The Secretary-General has asked his Special Representative for Western Sahara, Sahabzada Yaqub-Khan, to hold a new round of talks with the Government of Morocco and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguia el-Hamra and Rio de Oro (POLISARIO). According to the Secretary-General's Spokeswoman today, the talks, which were scheduled to begin today, "might be postponed" until tomorrow, 25 August, because the arrival of the POLISARIO delegation had been delayed.

In his report to the Security Council, dated 20 August, the Secretary-General said he was "encouraged by the progress achieved until now" in his Special Representative's talks with the parties. He said it remained to be seen, however, "whether the parties are willing to go far enough in adjusting their positions so as to make it possible to advance in real and concrete terms towards the holding of a referendum" for the Territory.
Document S/24464

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A United Nations spokeswoman reported today that "the heaviest shelling and fighting in weeks" had occurred in Sarajevo on Sunday, 23 August, and the airport had been closed for two hours. In spite of the fighting on Sunday, 18 humanitarian flights had landed at Sarajevo airport. The shelling was continuing today, she said.

Only five or six flights had landed at Sarajevo airport today, but a full schedule of flights was expected for tomorrow.

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United Nations

Press Release

Department of Public Information • News Coverage Service • New York

Prepared by Central News

DH/1212

25 August 1992

T U E S D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

- + General Assembly adopts 28-power resolution urging Security Council to consider, "on urgent basis", taking further appropriate measures to end fighting and restore unity and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- + Secretary-General says "international community has the right to expect" that resumed joint talks on 26 October result in overall framework agreement on Cyprus; proposes "alternative courses of action for resolving Cyprus problem", if agreement does not emerge in October.
- + Secretary-General, in London to attend International Conference on former Yugoslavia, describes his talks with British Prime Minister John Major as "extremely useful"; says Conference would create "a kind of continuous working group" which would give new momentum to efforts for peace.
- + "Important new information" on proscribed Iraqi programmes obtained during recent visit by inspection team, according to Special Commission on Iraqi Disarmament.
- + United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees seeks urgent resettlement of Somali refugees; Oman donates dates worth \$3.2 million to Somali refugees in Kenya and Yemen.
- + Sixth United Nations European Regional NGO Symposium on Palestine question concludes in Geneva.
- + Subcommission recommends that General Assembly launch third decade to combat racism.

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The General Assembly, ending its two-day debate on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, today adopted a 28-power resolution urging the Security Council to consider, on an urgent basis, taking further appropriate measures, as provided in Chapter VII of the United Nations, to put an end to

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the fighting and restore the unity and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 136 in favour to one against (Yugoslavia), with five abstentions (Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia and Russian Federation).

By the resolution, the Assembly condemned the violation of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as the massive violations of human rights and international law, in particular the abhorrent practice of "ethnic cleansing", and demanded that this practice be immediately brought to an end and that further steps be taken to stop the forcible displacement of population from and within the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Assembly demanded that units of the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA) and elements of the Croatian Army now in Bosnia and Herzegovina be either withdrawn, subjected to the authority of the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina, or disbanded and disarmed with their weapons placed under effective international monitoring.

Under another provision of the resolution, the Assembly demanded that the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) be granted immediate, unimpeded and continued access to all camps, prisons and other places of detention within the territory of former Yugoslavia and that all parties ensure complete safety and freedom of movement for the ICRC and otherwise facilitate such access.

The Assembly demanded the safe, unconditional and honourable repatriation of the refugees and deportees to their homes in Bosnia and Herzegovina and recognized their right to receive reparation for their losses.

It also urged all parties and others concerned to take the necessary measures to secure the safety of the United Nations Protection Force and all other United Nations personnel and asked the Secretary-General to report to its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution.

* * *

Urging the leaders of the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities to intensify their efforts to reach an overall framework agreement, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has stated that "the international community has the right to expect" that the resumed joint talks in New York on 26 October will result in such an agreement. If an agreement does not emerge in October, he said, then it will be necessary for the Security Council to consider "alternative courses of action for resolving the Cyprus problem".

In his report to the Security Council, dated 21 August, the Secretary-General further noted that "the strenuous effort" during the past three months had yielded some progress, "but did not achieve the goal that one could have expected". The set of ideas discussed during the talks, he wrote, particularly displaced persons and territorial adjustments, "has now been sufficiently developed" to enable the two sides to reach an early agreement.

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That goal could have been achieved, "had there been a greater degree of political will".

The Secretary-General reported further that on territorial adjustments, substantive discussions had taken place for the first time, "but the Turkish Cypriot side needs to show the necessary willingness to foresee an adjustment more or less in line with the suggestions embodied in the set of ideas", if the balance in the remainder of the set of ideas was to be maintained.

An annex to the Secretary-General's report describes the elements of the overall framework agreement, which will be submitted to the two communities in separate referendums within 30 days of its completion by the two leaders at a high-level international meeting. The overall agreement recognizes that Cyprus is the common home of the Greek Cypriot community and of the Turkish Cypriot community and acknowledges and ensures the political equality of the two communities. It will, when all its provisions contained in the transitional arrangements have been implemented, result in a "new partnership and a new constitution for Cyprus" that will govern the two communities on a federal basis that is "bi-communal as regards the constitutional aspects and bi-zonal as regards the territorial aspects". The agreement includes principles on territorial adjustments and displaced persons.

The proximity talks between the leaders of the two communities began on 18 June in New York. On 12 August, the parties held a series of joint meetings, and on 14 August, the Secretary-General suggested that the joint meetings enter a pause for reflexion and be reconvened on 26 October.
Document S/24472

The Security Council is scheduled to hold consultations on Cyprus and Iraq tomorrow, which will be followed by two formal meetings on the two subjects.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who is in London to co-chair the International Conference on former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia beginning tomorrow, 26 August, met today on several occasions with British Prime Minister John Major to prepare for the Conference. The Secretary-General said through his Spokesman that the talks had been "extremely useful".

According a statement issued by the Spokesman, the Secretary-General has not only discussed the modalities of the Conference with the Prime Minister, but also the permanent institutions that would be created by the Conference and which would be set up in Geneva. The Secretary-General attached importance to the fact that those institutions would be permanent ones and that efforts to find a solution to the Yugoslav crisis would go on continuously even after the Conference.

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The Secretary-General also indicated that the Conference would aim to find a framework for a dialogue among all protagonists to the Yugoslav conflict, a United Nations spokeswoman told correspondents in New York today.

The three Under-Secretaries-General accompanying the Secretary-General in London -- Vladimir Petrovsky, Marrack Goulding and Jan Eliasson, and Ibrahima Fall, Director of the Centre for Human Rights in Geneva, met with British officials at the Foreign Office to discuss final details of the Conference. The Secretary-General was scheduled to attend a dinner meeting hosted by Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd this evening.

The Secretary-General today also held a meeting with Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to discuss UNHCR's role in the forthcoming humanitarian efforts for Yugoslavia and received a preliminary briefing from Mr. Eliasson on his mission to Iraq. Yesterday, Mr. Petrovsky presented a report to the Secretary-General on his mission to Libya.

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"Important new information" on proscribed Iraqi programmes has been obtained during a recent visit by an inspection team to investigate Iraq's ability indigenously to produce missile guidance and control systems, according to the Special Commission on Iraqi Disarmament today.

A press release issued by the Commission said the team had conducted intrusive inspections at eight sites from 7 to 18 August, using the full powers delegated to the Special Commission by the Security Council. The inspection team found no evidence that Iraq had the capability indigenously to produce complete guidance and control systems for ballistic missiles, nor were any weapons or key components prohibited under Security Council resolution 687, Section C.

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The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is urgently seeking resettlement opportunities for a fraction of the estimated 1 million Somali refugees scattered around the world. Unfortunately, according to the UNHCR, very few countries want them.

"Somali refugees are one of the most difficult groups to resettle", says Gary Troeller, Head of the UNHCR's resettlement unit, explaining that in Somalia, immigration criteria take precedence over protection and humanitarian concerns.

The fraction of the estimated 1 million Somali refugees scattered around the world that the UNHCR would like to see resettled first, are: seriously traumatized survivors of torture; those with severe war injuries who require immediate medical care and long term rehabilitation; and "women at risk", such as rape victims who will have difficulty reintegrating into Somali society even after peace return.

(more)

As Somalis continue to flee at the rate of 1,000 per day, the UNHCR will need \$94 million in 1992 to provide basic assistance to refugees and returnees in Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti and north-west Somalia.

In a related development, Somali refugees in Yemen and Kenya, surviving on a diet unfamiliar to them, can now look forward to supplementing their food rations with dates -- a staple back home -- thanks to a \$3.2 million donation of the fruit by the Government of Oman.

Oman, in its largest contribution to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), announced it will ship 2,917 tons of dry dates to Kenya and 500 tons of the fruit to Yemen.

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The Sixth United Nations European Regional NGO Symposium on the question of Palestine, which concluded today in Geneva, has appealed to non-governmental groups in the region to identify specific actions that could influence policy and provide assistance and protection to Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Opening yesterday the Symposium entitled "Working for Peace -- European Coordination", Keba Birane Cisse (Senegal), Chairman of the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, said that there was an urgent need for measures to decrease the continuing tension and violence in the region.

The purpose of the two-day Symposium is to heighten awareness of the facts relating to the question of inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and to create a favourable atmosphere for the full implementation of the Committee's recommendations.

Following the Symposium, a three-day international meeting of non-governmental organizations on the theme of "Protection and Statehood", will be held in Geneva from 26 to 28 August. The meeting is formally known as the Ninth International Meeting on the Question of Palestine.

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The Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities has recommended that the Commission on Human Rights advise the General Assembly to take appropriate steps to launch a third decade to combat racism and racial discrimination, to begin in 1993. The Subcommission took that action at its meeting in Geneva on Friday, 21 August, during which it also decided to appoint, for a three-year period, a thematic special rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia.

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